CLAIMS

1. Method for organizing and consulting electronic data in the environment of a media library, these electronic data originating from a plurality of sources and supplied in various forms, characterized in that it is configured to provide a function of universal link between these various forms of electronic data in such a way that said electronic data can be consulted, stored and reused on common media within the media library.

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- 2. Method according to Claim 1, characterized in that it is configured to provide, for each type of work to be carried out on electronic data consulted as a document, a visual display mode which is suitable for this work.
- 3. Method according to Claim 2, characterized in that it is configured to provide a visual display mode in 20 the form of a media library providing access to the information originating from shared individual libraries.
- 4. Method according to ene of Claims 2 and 3, characterized in that it is configured moreover to provide a visual display mode in the form of a media library intended for storage of any information.
- 5. Method according to any one of Claims 2 to 4, characterized in that it is configured moreover to provide a visual display mode in the form of a lectern intended for storage of the current data and previewing of these data.

6. Method according to Claim 5, characterized in that it is configured moreover to provide a mode of miniature visual display of the books placed on the lectern.

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- 7. Method according to any one of Claims 2 to 6; characterized in that it is configured moreover to provide a visual display mode in the form of a book intended for consultation and storage of information relating to a given topic.
- 8. Method according to any one of Claims 2 to 7, characterized in that it is configured moreover to provide a visual display mode in the form of a notebook intended for consultation and storage of information relating to a given topic.
- 9. Method according to any one of Claims 2 to 8;
 20 characterized in that it is configured moreover to provide a visual display mode in the form of a page intended for consultation and editing of documents.
- 10. Method according to any one of Claims 2 to 9,
 25 characterized in that it is configured moreover to
 provide a visual display mode in the form of a sorter
 intended for reorganization and consultation in the form
 of data vignettes relating to a defined topic.
- 30 11. Method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it allows alteration "on the fly" of the elements of the interface and especially of the book in order to allow reading of the documents in

various_languages,_particularly_European,_Asiatic_and Arab languages, these interface elements particularly indluding the direction of reading, the position of the "Table of contents" and "Index" chapters, and the method of moving the pages.

- 12. Method according to any one of Claims 2 to 11, characterized in that it moreover comprises previewing of the documents to be consulted in the form of a book.
- Method according to Claim 12, characterized in 13. that it moreover comprises use of a navigation book to locate information from among a mass of electronic data within the media library
- Method according to Claim 13, characterized in 14. that it moreover comprises methods for access by document type including identification by location.
- 20 Method according to any one of Claims 12 to 14, 15. characterized in that it includes a mechanism consultation of an electronic data source, this mechanism being based on the metaphor of a book.
- 25-16. Method according to Claim 15, characterized in that it includes a mechahism for consultation and search within the World Wide Web\ this mechanism being based on the metaphor of a book.
- 30 Method according to one of Claims 15 and 16, characterized in that it \includes a mechanism consultation and searching of a file system, based on the metaphor of a book.

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18. Method according to any one of Claims 15 to 17, characterized in that it includes a mechanism for consultation and searching of an electronic mail system, based on the metaphor of a book.

19. Method according to any one of Claims 15 to 18; characterized in that it includes a mechanism for consultation and searching within a document database, based on the metaphor of a book.

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- 20. Method according to any one of Claims 12 to 19, characterized in that it is configured to provide identification of the alterable or non-alterable status of the book via the appearance of its binding.
- 21. Method according to any one of Claims 12 to 20, characterized in that it is configured to provide double-page reading based on a page translation.
- 22. Method according to any one of Claims 12 to 21, characterized in that it is configured to provide automatic positioning of a page marker in order to come back to previously consulted information.
- 23. Method according to any one of Claims 12 to 22, characterized in that it moreover comprises generation of a book of documents from a search carried out within the media library.
- 24. Method according to Claim 23, characterized in that it is configured to provide consultation of a search result in the form of vignettes.

25. Method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is configured to allow searching for items of information which are segmented by level.

26. Method according to any one of the preceding claims; characterized in that it moreover comprises incremental generation of books and of long-lived data from electronic data originating from "Push"-type mechanisms.

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27. Method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is configured to provide a sheet or a loose-leaf divider making it possible to keep information on the screen during the consultation of other information accessed from hypertext links or by any other mechanism.

- 20 28. Method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it provides a classification mode based on the number 7.
- 29. Method according to any one of the preceding 25 claims, characterized in that it is configured to provide annotation of electronic mail.
 - 30. Method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it employs a multi-mode icon.
 - 31. Method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is configured to provide

a visual identification of the freshness of an item of - information consulted and/or stored.

32. Method according to any one of the preceding claims; characterized in that it is configured to generate one or more temporary icons or tabs for loading of electronic data.

33. Method according to any one of the preceding 10 claims, characterized in that it is configured to allow the information to be identified according to its origin.